

## INFORMATION PAPER

SUBJECT: War Souvenirs

1. PURPOSE: To specify permissible war souvenirs for soldiers serving in the Iraqi Theatre of Operations.
2. REFERENCES:
  - a. Memorandum, 1 February 2004, Deputy Secretary of Defense Interim Guidance on Individual War Souvenirs.
  - b. Memorandum, 14 February 2004, Deputy Commander, Central Command, Subject: Partial Waiver of USCENTCOM General Order Number 1A, War Souvenirs.
  - c. Message 181630Z MAR 04 - CFC Frago 09-528 War Souvenirs in the ITO.
  - d. Message 050600Z APR 04 - CFLCC Frago 98 to OPORD 03-035, War Souvenirs in the Iraqi Theatre of Operations.
3. PERMISSIBLE WAR SOUVENIRS. War souvenirs are limited to the following items:
  - a. Helmets and head coverings.
  - b. Uniforms and uniform items such as insignia and patches.
  - c. Canteens, compasses, rucksacks, pouches, and load-bearing equipment.
  - d. Flags (except flags, standards and colors taken from enemies of the United States and sent to the Secretary of the Army IAW 10 USC 4714).
  - e. Military training manuals, books and pamphlets.
  - f. Posters, placards and photographs.
  - g. Currency of the former regime.

4. KNIVES AND BAYONETS. Knives and bayonets are also permissible war souvenirs except as follows:

a. Switchblade knives, including knives with an automatic blade opener including knives in which the blade snaps forth from the grip by pressing a button or lever or on releasing a catch with which the blade can be locked (spring knife), or by weight or by swinging motion and is locked automatically (gravity knife) or by any operation, alone or in combination, of gravity or spring mechanisms and can be locked.

b. Blades that are particularly equipped to be collapsed, telescoped or shortened.

c. Blades that are stripped beyond the normal extent for hunting or sporting.

d. Blades concealed in other devices (for example, walking sticks, umbrellas, tubes).

5. PROHIBITED ITEMS. Prohibited items include everything not specified above, including specifically:

a. All weaponry, including weapons, weapons systems, ammunition, cartridge casings, and club-type hand weapons, except those items specifically allowed under para 4.

b. Personal items belonging to enemy combatants or civilians including, but not limited to, letters, family pictures, identification cards and "dog tags."

c. Items taken from the dead, from prisoners of war, or from detained individuals.

d. Items that pose safety or health risks.

6. DOCUMENTATION AND AUTHORIZATION. Absent proper documentation and authorization from CENTCOM, otherwise permissible war souvenirs returned to CONUS may still be considered contraband. Consult your Trial Counsel for further information or action.

7. POINT OF CONTACT. For additional information call the OSJA, Administrative Law Division, at 526-4834.

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